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Sen. Adán Augusto López Hernández
President of the Political Coordination Board
Mexican Senate
Av. Paseo de la Reforma 135
esq. Insurgentes Centro, Colonia Tabacalera
Alcaldía Cuauhtémoc, 06030
Ciudad de México
México

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Dear Senator,

**I am writing to you to express my concern about the delay in the renewal of the National Citizen Council of the National Search System, a crucial advisory body to countering the concerning situation of disappearances in the country and ensuring the right of the relatives of victims of enforced disappearances to participate in decision-making.**

According to the Mexican General Law on the Forced Disappearance of Persons, the National Citizen Council is made up of relatives of victims of disappearances, experts in human rights or in searching disappeared people, and representatives of human rights organizations. It proposes measures to ensure the search for disappeared people, oversees the government’s performance in this respect and reports any possible irregularities. Regarding the Mexican Senate it is in charge of appointing the members of the National Citizen Council, after public consultation, guaranteeing the principle of gender parity.

Mexico is facing a long-lasting crisis of disappearances: according to the National Registry of Missing and Unlocated Persons, to date, at least 124’000 people are missing or unlocated. Despite the importance of the National Citizen Council in addressing this crisis, since May 2024, the Council is not operating because the Mexican Senate has not yet launched a public call to select its members.

**Therefore, I urge you to take all necessary steps to appoint the members of the National Citizen Council of the National Search System ensuring the right to search of the relatives of victims of enforced disappearance, including by participating in decision-making.**

Yours sincerely,

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**Copie**

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